



Anadolu ve Çevresinde ORTAÇAĞ

3

AKVAD (Anadolu Kùltür Varlıklarını Arařtırma Derneđi)
Ankara, 2009



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Yıl: 3, Sayı 3, Ekim 2009

ISSN: 1307-8852

**Anadolu Kültür Varlıklarını Araştırma Derneği adına sahibi ve
Sorumlu Yazı İşleri Müdürü**

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Yaygın süreli yayın

Yayının Adı

Anadolu ve Çevresinde Ortaçağ (Dergi)

Yayın Şekli

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Renk Ayrımı ve Film: Harun Efe

Tasarım ve Baskı: Rekmay Ltd. Şti. / www.rekmay.com.tr

Early Christian and Byzantine Archaeology on the Valleys around Madytos

AYŞE ÇAYLAK TÜRKER

The studies within the district borders of Eceabat (Madytos) constitute some of the field surveys we planned in 2005 in order to detect the archaeological data of early Christian and Byzantine periods in the Thracian Chersonesos¹. Constituting the western margin of the Thracian Chersonesos, this region includes the areas where World War I intensively took place. The destruction by this war makes it difficult to detect the archaeological data. This destruction was increased by the post-war monumental arrangements and afforestation activities. So as to overcome this difficulty, at the first stage, we followed the program of the infrastructural activities of the municipality in the central town of Eceabat and accessed significant data. At the second stage, we evaluated the close vicinity of Eceabat-Madytos within a diameter of 5 and then 10 km. As a result of these studies, we clarified the approximate borders of the settlement in Eceabat during the Byzantine period and the centers in the short distance, with which it had closer relations². At the third stage, our aim was to undertake research works in the valleys that determined the direction of transportation in the Peninsula. The first evaluations of the archaeological data we have detected on the valleys will constitute the subject of this study.

The river system in the Thracian Chersonesos formed valley types as heading towards Çanakkale Strait and towards the Gulf of Saroz due to its specific geological structure. The plains in the peninsula are the lands that extend between the valleys and mountainous land pierced by lateral brooks.

Yalova (Akbaş) Valley: Yalova Valley is an important wide-bottomed valley located within the district borders of Eceabat (Fig. 1). Akbaş Port is located on the coast of the valley in Çanakkale Strait. Yalova Valley joins with the small valleys formed by lateral brooks and creates valley networks. These valley networks provide easy access to Ece Port in Saroz and Suvla natural ports in the North Aegean.

Akbaş (Sestos) Castle: On the southwestern margin of Yalova Valley is a castle localized at the marginal point of the land that looks like the letter “W” and is protected on both sides on a northeastfacing plateau at an altitude of approximately 100 m. The castle has a polygonal plan formed by the walls which follow the high points of the land (Fig. 2). At the southeastern margin of the castle there is a cove and the mouth of the river running through the valley serves as a natural port (Fig. 3). The ancient city of Sestos is localized in the location of the castle in Akbaş (Isaac 1986, 197; Picard and Reinach 1912, 275) (Fig.1.1). The preliminary information we obtained from our studies in the region from 1998 to 2000 reveals that the area around the port used to be densely populated from the early Byzantine period to the late Byzantine period. The archaeological field surveys we planned depending on this information have been ongoing since 2005. During these studies, we documented a cistern on the plain in front of the castle, which was unearthed by illegal excavations (Fig. 4). According to the construction material of the cistern, we come to the conclusion that it should be dated to the late Roman or Early Byzantine Periods. We detected intensive Byzantine pottery and granite columns at the altitudes on the skirts of the defense structure that face the southwest and on the plains in the east, where olive groves are located.

1 Our studies about Hellespont is supported by Tübitak (project no: SOBAG 104K074).

2 For these studies, see. Türker 2006, 613-625; Türker 2008a, 515-585; Türker 2008b, 13-20; Türker 2008c, 21-30; A. Ç. Türker, “Hellespont in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries”, *I. Uluslararası Sevgi Gönül Bizans Araştırmaları Sempozyumu*, İstanbul, 25-28 Haziran 2007 (in print); A. Ç. Türker, “Two Byzantine Cities in the Middle Region of the Dardanelles: Madytos and Koila”, *XV. International Congress of Christian Archaeology*, Toledo, 8-12 September 2008 (in print); A. Ç. Türker, “Glaze Byzantine Pottery in Eceabat-Madytos”, *XII. Ortaçağ - Türk Dönemi Kazıları ve Sanat Tarihi Araştırmaları Sempozyumu*, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart Üniversitesi, 15-17 Ekim 2008 (in print).

According to the preliminary information, as a result of the initial analyses of the defense structure, it became evident that the castle had undergone four construction phases. The earliest construction phase is detected on the tower at the southwest-facing center (Fig. 5). The second construction phase is observed on the tower and on the northwest and southeast walls. The first and the second construction phases bear material and technical properties of the Byzantine Period. The Ottoman Period construction traces observed at the northwestern corner and on the wall represent the 3rd construction phase. The 4th construction phase is detected at the southeast-facing corner of the castle. It seems as if the tower, likely to have been located in this section, collapsed and that a plain wall was built instead of it. Depending on cement traces, it can be stated that this repair may have belonged to the 19th to 20th centuries. An inscription appears to belong to the classical period, detected on a stone used in the repair works of the wall was also documented.

Studies were made in order to find out whether this defense structure in Akbaşı used to be a citadel or an independent defense structure. As a result of these studies, remnants likely to have belonged to a defense wall built with large stones, extending northeastern-southwestern direction and having an approximate thickness of 1.75 m and approximate length 4.5 m., were discovered at about 150 m. northwest to the structure and at an altitude around 65 m. Nevertheless, the dense overgrowth of vegetation makes it difficult to follow the extension of the wall. Traces of a wall to the southeast of the structure extend diagonally from approximately 75 m northeast of the castle from the southern slope to the sea. Neither the quality of these walls nor to which period they belonged can be deciphered with the available data.

At a similar altitude with the castle, slightly-intensive pottery shreds that characterize the early phases of the classical Greek culture and the Roman Period are found. There is also an oil lamp from the Hellenistic period among the finds. On the other hand, intensive pottery shreds and numerous architectural sculpture belonging to the early Christian and Byzantine periods were uncovered³. The pottery finds of the Byzantine period (Fig. 6) concentrate on the southeastern slopes of the castle and the plains extending to the sea. The moderately intensive rim shreds of red-slipped and painted pottery dated to the 5th to 7th centuries are also documented. The most intensive group is composed of shreds of Zeuxippus wares that are dated to the 12th to 13th centuries. Underneath or on the revert side of the shreds belonging to this group are some graffiti likely as signs of a workshop or of a potter. We presume that agricultural activities are responsible for such intensity of finds. These activities, though, have significantly destroyed the site in Akbaşı. The intensity of finds shows that the destruction in Akbaşı has reached to considerable dimensions.

The architectural sculptures, presumably excavated in this region, are kept in Yalova Village today⁴ (Fig. 7). Among these marble works are tempon piers, monolith tempon columns, screens, double columns, column capitals and column bases as well as column shafts. The sculptures for liturgical purposes constitute a significant group. Besides the archaeological data found in Akbaşı, historical sources also indicate the existence of a Byzantine castle and a monastery in this region. This information is in parallel to the archaeological data we detected. Procopius states that a castle was constructed in the uncared city of Sestos by the Emperor Justinian (Procopius 1971, 303). He defines the location of the castle as a very steep hill and describes the constructed castle as very unapproachable and quite impossible to be captured by enemies. The castle was called *choiridokastron* (Mackay 1976), *coiridokastron* (Hales 1830, 368) and *cheirido-kastro* (Post 1830, 312) castle in historic-geographical studies and by the visitors of the region in the 18th to 19th centuries. Leaf stated that the castle was also known as "Domuz Castle" (Leaf 1923, 132).

3 In an area of 1m , 1-5 ceramics are defined as few, 6-10 as moderate and 11+ as intensive.

4 We observed several architectural sculptures scattered in the village and used as reused material on the surrounding wall of the cemetery. The villagers express that these were brought from the location of the castle, which they call Tekke locality.

The name of Sestos-Akbař settlement is also mentioned as *Zemenik* and it is suggested that the castle concerned was named Zemenik Castle driven from the name of the settlement (Butler 1831, 122; Dolen 1995, 764; Godley 1992, 346; Panckoucke 1838, 130; Mionet 1822, 429; How and Wells 1912, 33-7; Remel 1830, 157). Another opinion is that the name of the settlement is Sest Tepe in Turkish (Clarke 1813, 170). In publications, it is put forward that Sestos-Akbař was the first place the Turks captured while crossing to Europe. It is quoted that it was selected as the easiest point for transition to Europe by the Ottomans and that the castle in this region had been captured by Süleyman Pařa a year before Çimpe Castle in Gallipoli was captured (Butler 1831, 122). However, the Ottoman forces were not able to get firmly established here and were driven back by Ioannes Paleologos.

William Hales claims that Madytos was also captured together with Sestos-Akbař Castle during this siege (Hales, 1830, 368) whereas Post advocates that the Turks had planned to settle down in Çimenlik Hisarı, which was five miles below the ancient castle that was referred to as cheirido-kastro by Greeks, when they made their first raid to Europe (Post, 1830, 312). These data indicate that the Ottomans crossed the Strait by performing raids or in cooperation with Byzantium as of the Era of Orhan Bey.

A tekke, known as Akbař Tekkesi, is located in the south of the central tower in the southwest of the defense structure. Today, the villagers on Akbař Valley call the hill 'Tekke Tepe' referring to this tekke. The tekke is recorded to have been a Bektashi tekke, established under the pressure of the Janissary corps during the period of Sultan Mahmut (Knight, 1839, 215). Leaf states that in this Tekke, there is a grave of a Turkish ghazi, who became a martyr during the capture of the castle in 1365 (Leaf 1923, 119-120). The Ottoman graves in this locality were also documented during our studies in 2005.

Yalova: Having developed on the small and protected valley by the stream (Sıvatlı Dere) reaching Akbař Valley from the northeast, Yalova Village (Fig.1.6) is indicated under the names Yalakabad and Yalakova. It is put forward that the settlement of Sestos is the present Yalova Village. Cramer stated that this view was first suggested by Mannert (Cramer 1828, 328). The other researchers investigating in the region also accepted the view that Yalova Village is the settlement of Sestos (Anthon 1912, 276).

We detected a considerable number of architectural sculpture in our field surveys in Yalova Village. In the garden of Zafer Elementary School in the village, column capitals and ambo podium screen in front of the garden door, templon screen and piers as well as column shafts behind the school were documented prior to the repair works at the school building (Fig.7). The architectural sculpture from the vicinity of the village cemetery was used both as reused material on the surrounding walls of the cemetery and as tombstones. (Fig. 8). Templon piers and double columns are intensive among the works in the place concerned. A double column, used as a floor pavement, was documented in front of the garden door at the entrance of the village mosque. Monolith templon column and colonette pieces, used as tombstones, were detected at the cemetery of the mosque (Fig. 9). The column shaft pieces are scattered in the village. Ottoman sources state that during this era 14 Muslim families used to live in Yalova Village (Sezgin 1998, 171).

The second stage of our surveys was conducted on the southwest-facing slopes of Yalova Valley. In 2006, roof covering material as well as glazed and unglazed pottery representing Byzantine and Turkish Periods were detected in Çağlayık and Ağılaltı localities during these studies (Fig.1.2). As we started, no field surveys were possible, since the higher altitudes of this valley used to be covered with a dense forest fabric. However, due to the forest fire that broke out in 2008, we intend to undertake further surveys in this locality again.

The fact that Kavaklıçeřme (Fig.1.3-4) and Gavurköy (Fig.1.5) localities in this region used to be densely settled in the middle and late Byzantine periods was confirmed with our archaeological

field surveys in December 2008. This information constitutes new findings demonstrating that the southwestfacing slopes of Yalova Valley were settled during the Byzantine period.

Gavurköy locality: Pithoi embedded in soil were uncovered in this area (Fig. 10). Some of them were broken and scattered around while clearing away the tree roots. Pithoi, handle, body and rim shreds of storing wares, dated to the middle and late Byzantine periods, are intensive. Among glazed potteries there are a light brown-glazed base piece from the midst of the 12th century, and a green-glazed rim shred of the same period, both decorated in scraping technique (Fig.11).

Kavaklıçeşme locality: Rim and body shreds of pithoi as well as neck and base shreds of Ganos amphorae were documented intensively in this area. Among glazed potteries are rim and base shreds in Zeuxippus II group from the midst of the 12th century to the 13th century. There is a decorative composition of vertical hatchings and “S”s on light green-glazed shreds. Exterior surfaces are creamslipped (Fig.12). Among monochrome glazed potteries are dark green-glazed base shreds. A tripod trace can be observed on the interior surface of a base shred. Among other shreds are rims and bodies decorated in scraping technique. However, they are largely deglazed.

Keçili: Keçili (Fig.1.9) is situated on a small valley extending in northeastern direction behind Yalova Village. Extending to the southwestern slope at the end of the valley, Keçili is abandoned today. At present, ruins of ancient structures are observed in this valley. Among them, the ground stones of ethnographic value were also documented. Painted pottery shreds of the early Christian period as well as glazed (Fig.13) and unglazed potteries of the middle and late Byzantine Period were detected in the locality of Keçili Village called Harmanyeri (Fig.1.8). Depending on these data, it is understood that the valley was a settlement in the Byzantine Period. In Ottoman records dated to 1569 we discover that 38 Muslim families used to live in Keçili (Sezgin 1998, 171).

The Ottoman Period tombstones in the cemetery of Keçili Village are also documented. The tombstones concerned are divided into two groups. The first group is composed of tombstones constructed in large dimensions with a slope on one edge without any inscriptions, whereas the second group is composed of tombstones with inscriptions.

Bahşiköy: Bahşiköy is a village established to the southeast of Yalova Valley on the southwestern slopes of a valley formed by a stream (Fig.1.11). As it is abandoned today, only a fountain and some wall traces can be observed. Granite column pieces were discovered in the location of the fountain during our field surveys. Architectural sculpture works of the Byzantine Period were documented at the village cemetery (Fig.14). Large-sized tombstones are found at the cemetery, like in Keçili. Bahşiköy is mentioned under the name Bahsi in Ottoman Period records with the information that 22 Muslim families used to live in Bahsi (Sezgin 1998, 171).

Kumköy: Following Bahşiköy, there is Kumköy (Fig. 1.10) which was founded close to the northeast-facing margin of Yalova Valley. Uzunhızırılı, Bahşiköy and Keçili Villages moved here in the 1950s. We learn from the residents in the village that the double columns we discovered under the remnants of a stone coffin at Kumköy cemetery were also brought from Keçili during this immigration (Fig.15). Column shaft pieces belonging to the Byzantine Period and a pier with an engraved soffit motif on one of its narrow surfaces are also among the finds at the cemetery. An identical example of this type of pier was detected at Akköy cemetery (Türker 2009, fig. 18). Architectural finds dated to the Byzantine Period in and around the village and columns in Kumköy Mosque were also documented during our research works. According to these data, it can be stated that Kumköy or its close vicinity may have been used as a settlement during the Byzantine Period. The village is mentioned as Kum in Ottoman records and it was recorded that 56 Muslim families used to live in Kum (Sezgin 1998, 171).

Yalova Valley ends in Kumköy. Between this valley and Ece Port (Kocadere Valley) are plains that have been quite pierced by mountainous land, brooks and Uzunhızırılı Lake. Kocadere is

nourished by lateral brooks and reaches the sea at Ece Port and creates a narrow bottom and wide-mouthed and steep-sloped valley behind this natural port. Field surveys were conducted on these plains between Ece Port and Yalova Valley during our research works.

Plains between Yalova and Ece Port Valleys: (Fig. 16)

Uzunhızırılı (Fig. 16.12): Tombstones with one sloped edge, built with large stones like in Keçili and Bahşıköy, were documented at the northeastern margin of Uzunhızırılı Dam after Kumköy. Byzantine Period columns, piers and impost capitals used as tombstones are located at this cemetery (Fig. 17). It can be considered that the Byzantine stone works documented here may have been transported from the same center with Kumköy. Abandoned today, the village is referred to as Uzunhızırılı in Ottoman records again and there is also mention about 34 Muslim families who used to live in Uzunhızırılı (Sezgin 1998, 171).

Yolağzı (Selvili) (Fig. 16.15): We have registered a double column and capital sections decorated with acanthus leaves at the edge of the garden door of the elementary school in Yolağzı Village (Fig. 18). Red slip ware body shreds and Byzantine unglazed jug handle shreds dated to 6th to 7th centuries were detected behind the school, on the southwestern slope of a hill nearly 20 meters high. These data document the existence of a Byzantine Period settlement around the hill.

Karainbeyli (Karnabili) village locality (Fig. 16.17): There is a 6th century Ionic-impost type capital placed for decoration on the façade wall of the village coffee house in Karainbeyli (Fig. 19). We have also documented templon pier and column shaft pieces, scattered in the area in front of the coffee house and in the village (Fig. 20).

Kiliselik locality (Fig. 16.18): The site is about 3.5 km away and to the northeast of Karainbeyli Village, located at an altitude of approximately 85 m. It lies in the northeast of Kocadere, to the northwest of the road to Tayfur Village. Field surveys were performed in an area which is 90 m away from the road to the northwest and 200 m long towards the northeast. During these surveys, we detected intensive pottery shreds (Fig. 21). Among the potteries are the samples of unglazed, painted and red slip wares representing the late Roman and early Christian Periods. Moderately intensive glazed potteries that can be dated to the middle and late Byzantine periods were documented. The lug shreds of late Roman and early Christian amphorae constitute the most intensive group among the unglazed potteries. Painted potteries have micaceous paste. Handle shreds of horizontally-handled storing and service wares are intensive in this group. Red slip wares are represented with body and base shreds. There are decorations in print technique on these potteries. Green and yellow glazed body and base shreds of the 11th to 12th centuries were documented among glazed potteries.

Although the settlement's name Kiliselik indicates the existence of a church, no architectural remnants or architectural sculpture pieces could be detected during our surveys in this area. Nevertheless, in our conversations with the field owners in this locality, we learned that some of the pieces we documented in the village in Karainbeyli Village had been carried away from this locality. Depending on this information, the existence of a religious institution in Kiliselik locality can be envisaged.

Hisarlık (Asarlık Hill) (Fig. 16.19): Hisarlık is approximately 3.30 km southwest of Karainbeyli Village. It is located at the marginal point of the hill at the northeastern margin of the road to Koyun Port. The place concerned is a flat hill at an altitude of almost 50 m. at the mouth of the valley created by Söğülcük and Hacıoğlu Brooks reaching Kocadere. In our preliminary investigations, we accessed data showing that the lands on this valley had also been used during the Byzantine period. We plan to make surveys in this valley and Koyun Port during the following seasons. Walls with average height of 2 m. that seem to belong to a large structure, unearthed through an illegal excavation, were documented at the northwestern corner of the hill (Fig. 22).

Glazed and unglazed pottery pieces representing the middle and late Byzantine periods are moderately intensive on the hill and intensive in the fields in the southwest of the hill in Hisarlık

locality (Fig. 23). Among glazed potteries there are 12th century fine sgraffito, Aegean wares of the midst of the 12th century to the beginning of the 13th century and pieces representing Zeuxippos I and II of the midst of the 12th century to the 13th century. The body shred decorated in fine sgraffito technique is light greenglazed and decorated in locket style. The pieces of Zeuxippos I, have paste of good quality and they are glazed with luminous green of very good quality. At the center of the ware is a decoration of concentric circles. In the base shreds of Zeuxippos II, there are intensive compositions of stylized plant motifs displaying a ternary design situated at the center. Decoration compositions of hatchings and “S”s are observed on body and rim shreds. Some of the shreds contain graffiti, likely as marks of a workshop or a potter, under the base. Shreds of Zeuxippos families I and II are outstanding with their coarse paste and larger forms. Dark green glaze and brown paints are detected on them. Concentric circles and chevron motif constitute the basic decorative composition.

Fields behind Musallatepe in Beşyol (Tursun) (Fig.16.20): Glazed and unglazed potteries representing the Byzantine period, which were scattered on a wide area in the fields in the north and south of the road, were documented at a distance of approximately 350 m. to Beşyol on the road to Küçük Anafartalar from Beşyol. This place is located approximately 100 m. southwest of the locality known as Musallatepe. The surveyed area is 150 m. long and 130 m. wide. It displays a land structure that is sloped towards the southeast. The slope of the land descends from an altitude of 64 m. to an altitude of 55 m. The amphora handle shreds of the 11th to 12th centuries are intensive among the unglazed potteries we detected from this area. Among glazed potteries are green-glazed bowl shreds decorated in scraping and sgraffito techniques presumably dated between the midst of the 12th to the 13th century (Fig. 24). A glazed handle shred is noteworthy since it represents the existence of glazed jugs of the same period.

Ecelimanı (Fig.25.22): Reaching at the locality of Ecelimanı, Kocadere runs into the Gulf of Saroz. Ecelimanı is composed of three coves, two of them are large, the third is smaller. A cove called Küçük Port is located at the mouth of the valley formed by Kocadere and a cove called Büyük Port is located between the cape in the west of Küçük Port and Kartalkaya-Boz Cape. Transition between both ports via land is difficult whereas transportation is easy by sea. The plains formed by the brooks reaching the valley from the southwest where Küçük Port is located, there are other means of transportation between the ports. Glazed and unglazed pottery rim, handle and body shreds of the early and middle Byzantine periods were detected in our field surveys on these plains located at an altitude of around 4 m. (Fig. 26).

Field surveys were conducted in the area that extends from the mouth of the valley in Küçük Port towards 500 m. to the south and on the southwest-facing slopes of the valley. Byzantine pottery and architectural sculpture pieces were detected at the lower and higher altitudes of the southwest-facing slopes⁵. Painted and unglazed pieces representing the early Christian period and the glazed pieces representing the middle and late Byzantine periods are intensive at the lower (3 m.) and higher (32 m.) altitudes among the potteries. There are bowl rim shreds among the painted potteries. Among unglazed potteries are storing and cooking pots of early and middle Byzantium and amphora bodies and handles. Wares produced with two different pastes, with a group being densely mica-tempered paste, were documented among unglazed potteries. There are rim and body shreds among the glazed potteries that were detected to be moderately intensive. They represent monochromatically-glazed, fine sgraffito and Aegean wares. There are green and brown glazed samples among monochrome glazed potteries. Creamglazed rims and bodies are the shreds that represent the Aegean ware of the midst of the 12th century to the 13th century. The body shred decorated in fine sgraffito technique is light green-glazed and is decorated in a style that is defined as locket style.

Two trapezoid-section screen pieces were documented at the high altitudes (Fig. 27). Here, there are wall traces displaying the existence of some architecture dug likely during illegal excavations (Fig. 28). However, the dense plant cover makes it impossible to pursue the plan. Unglazed pottery, handle and

5 Field surveys will continue at Büyük Port and at the joining brooks during the following years.

body shreds are scattered on a wide area on the beach at Küçük Port. These shreds have been abraded by the sea. It is already planned to conduct field surveys at the ports located in the east and west of Küçük Port during the following years. Depending on the preliminary information we obtained from our investigations at Küçük Port, we come to the conclusion that Ece Port must have been densely populated during the early and middle Byzantine periods⁶.

Suvla Plain: One of the roads, which reach Suvla Plain from the plains between Yalova and Ece Port (Kocadere) valleys, passes via Beşyol (Tursun). There is a gulf between Büyük and Küçük Kemikli Capes on Suvla Plain. It is the largest natural port of the peninsula. A salt lake is formed behind this port (Fig. 29). Our field surveys at site were concentrated in the village locality in Büyük and Küçük Anafartalar. In addition, preliminary studies were performed in Büyük and Küçük Kemikli localities⁷.

Büyük Kemikli (Fig. 29.25): Intensive Roman Period stamped amphora handle shreds (Fig. 30) and moderately intensive Byzantine amphora body and handle shreds were detected on the land pierced by ditches on the side of the road extending towards Büyük Kemikli Cape in the northeast of Salt Lake.

Küçük Kemikli (Fig. 29.26): Intensive potteries of early and middle Byzantine periods were detected in Küçük Kemikli during our preliminary studies in this region (Fig. 31). Unglazed shreds constitute the majority of the pottery. However, the painted potteries representing the early Christian period also constitute an essential group.

Painted potteries can be considered in two groups according to their paste quality. The first group has a fine-tempered paste in the shades of pink and orange-like pink. They contain paintings in the shade of red or dark brown. The paints were applied in such a way that would either cover the whole surface or form a horizontal band in a specific section of the ware, as it is seen on a cover shred. The second group includes densely-micaceous wares with red paste. They are painted in the same tone with or in a darker tone than the paste. A decoration in relief technique is detected on a body shred in this group. Horizontal handle shreds are intensive among the wares produced with micaceous paste. Among unglazed potteries are base, handle and body shreds of the early and middle Byzantine periods.

Küçük Anafartalar (Fig. 29.23): There is a Byzantine screen used as an ayna taşı on an Ottoman Period fountain in the village locality in Küçük Anafartalar (Fig. 32.). From Ottoman Period records, we learn that 159 Muslim families used to live in this village (Sezgin 1998, 171). The tombstones with and without inscriptions at Küçük Anafartalar Cemetery were also documented.

Büyük Anafartalar (Fig. 29.24): The Corinthian type of column capitals (Fig. 33-34), columns, architrave and 3 different types of double column pieces, which have been documented at the cemetery in Büyük Anafartalar Village, are the works that represent the Byzantine Period. In Ottoman Period records, it was recorded that 257 Muslim families used to live in the village (Sezgin 1998, 171). The Ottoman Period tombstones at the village cemetery were also documented.

Bigalı Valley: There is a natural road from Suvla Plain to Bigalı Valley via Büyük Anafartalar Village. Bigalı Valley is a narrow bottom valley, the mouth of which is located in Çanakkale Strait (Fig. 35). The present Bigalı Village (Fig. 35.27) grew in the upper section of this valley. In Ottoman Period records, the name of Bigalı Village is mentioned as 'Bigalı-i Büzürg' and it is stated that 76 Muslim families used to live in Bigalı-i Büzürg (Sezgin 1998, 171). In front of the village mosque there is a public fountain and a well curb with an inscription mentioning the name of Hacı İbrahim Ağa of Rize as the donor (Çaylak 1997, 26). Column shaft pieces used as one large stone, a monolith templon column piece, a column base (Fig. 36) and a stone bowl were documented in the village. There is a marble piece of screen brought from Bigalı Village at Çanakkale Archeology Museum (Fig. 37). On the front surface of the screen is a composition of four semicircles. The holes on it show that it was used for a second time. These data indicate a religious institution on Bigalı Valley.

6 For information on the ancient cities localized in this area, see Isaac 1986, 188.

7 For information on the ancient cities localized in Büyük and Küçük Kemikli, see Isaac 1986, 189-191.

At the mouth of Bigalı Valley is an Ottoman castle established in the 18th century. A natural road at the southwest-facing mouth of the valley reaches Yalova Valley. Baştepe Mound is located to the north of the point, where the road reaches Yalova Valley. The road is cut here by Yalova Brook. There is a bridge, likely to have belonged to the Byzantine Period, in the place where the road is cut⁸. The road progresses here and is directed to Yalova Village. There is another natural road that crosses between Maltepe and Poyraztepe in the middle section of the valley and reaches to Kilye (Koila) Plain. Sparsely intensive pottery shreds of the early Christian and Byzantine periods, scattered on a wide area, were documented on both sides of the road on Kilye Plain (Fig. 35.30).

Kilye Valley (Ece -Piren Plain): The mouth of Kilye Valley in Çanakkale Strait is one of the best natural ports (Fig. 38). Located in the middle section of the strait, Kilye Valley joins Piren Plain and connects the Northern Aegean and Çanakkale Strait. Kabatepe (Fig.38.36) is the most suitable port area of the valley in the Aegean Sea.

There is a tower in ruins, where we detected Byzantine and Ottoman construction phases, in the southwest of Kilye Cove (Fig.38.40), on the coast in approximately 550 m. east of the present promotional center. It is understood that the tower has an almost circular plan (Fig. 39). Depending on the material and technical characteristics of its walls, it can be monitored that it had had at least 4 construction phases. The earliest visible construction phase is preserved today on the upper section of the wall in the northwest of the tower. A hidden brick technique representing the 11th century is detected in this section⁹.

The Kocadere, Maltepe and Poyraztepe side of the valley between Kilye and Kabatepe Ports displays a highland structure. The western margins of the road between Poyraztepe and Maltepe, the slopes of Maltepe, the lower sections of Kocadere Village and Değirmenlik locality are the points where we detected the finds during our fields surveys in these areas. Red slip wares of the late Roman and early Christian periods, terracotta roof covering materials of the 10th to 13th centuries and few glazed potteries dated to the midst of the 12th century to the 13th century and handle shreds of Ganos amphorae of the 10th to 11th centuries being sparsely-densely scattered on a wide area are present on the surface in these regions. Among the Ottoman Period finds there are unglazed jug handles, rims and bodies of monochrome glazed early Ottoman potteries and dish rim shreds of Çanakkale pottery.

Kocadere (Fig.38.33): In Kocadere Village, we detected architectural sculpture pieces as reused material in the mosque (Fig. 40) as well as in the elementary school garden (Fig. 41) and around the village mosque (Fig. 42). Among them are Corinthian column capitals, columns of Byzantine Period and double columns, which are in parallel to the samples of the 6th to 7th centuries. Impost type of column capitals, a piece likely to have belonged to a templon architrave and a screen with an interlace composition are dated to the middle and late Byzantine periods depending on their stylistic characteristics. Broken Ottoman Period tombstones were documented behind the mosque. Kocadere Village is mentioned as 'Kurucadere' in Ottoman records and it is where 56 Muslim families used to live in 1569 (Sezgin 1998, 171). 12th century amphorae revealed from the sea, were detected at the port in Kabatepe, the port of the valley on the Aegean coast (Fig. 43).

Ayazma and Kocadam (Fig. 38.37-38-39): The southwestern side of the valley is composed of plains pierced by small brooks as in Poyraztepe. Sparsely intensive glazed and unglazed potteries and sparsely intensive corner pieces of concave tiles were found during our field surveys in Ayazma and Kocadam localities in these areas. Among glazed potteries are bowl bases dated to 13th century that contain a decoration of two concentric circles at the brown-glazed center and monochrome glazed rim shreds of 10th to 12th centuries (Fig. 44). The concave roof covering materials indicating the 10th to 13th centuries display at least three different types. During our survey we have also documented a column, a screen piece of the early

8 A comprehensive study prepared by us, concerning the road system in Thracian Chersonesos during the Byzantine period is at the stage of publication.

9 Türker 2008c, 21-30; A. Ç. Türker, I. Uluslararası Sevgi Gönül Bizans Araştırmaları Sempozyumu (in print); A. Ç. Türker, XII. Ortaçağ - Türk Dönemi Kazıları ve Sanat Tarihi Araştırmaları Sempozyumu 2008 (in print).

Byzantine period and marble potteries, the parallels of which are observed as of the 6th century, uncovered during agricultural activities in the fields by villagers of the region.

Madytos-Eceabat: Eceabat is a wide bottom coastal plain between Kakmadağ and Çamburnu. In the middle of this plain is a hill called Kilisetepe and expressed as 'St. Dimitri' at the marginal point of Uluğtepe that extends towards the coast (Fig. 45.42). Small finds representing the early and late Byzantine phases were documented on the southwestern slopes of this hill (Choiseul-Gouffier 1822, 50). These potteries can be viewed much less intensively in the southwest of the cemetery. Architectural sculpture, likely to have belonged to a church, were again unearthed in this region. Relying on the Byzantine pottery and roof covering materials on the surface, it is possible to state that the center of Madytos had been located on this hill and that the city had expanded as far as Çamburnu (Fig. 45.43) locality. Our observation regarding this case was also supported by the sections we observed in the excavation holes dug during the sewer system activities of the city. Architectural sculpture indicating the presence of a church was unearthed as a result of sewer system excavations in Çamburnu locality in the southwest of Eceabat (Türker 2006, 613-625; Türker 2008a, 515-585; Türker 2008b, 13-20). These data, which demonstrate the existence of at least two churches in Madytos, document that the city had expanded from Kilisetepe to Çamburnu.

Havuzlar: Havuzlar locality, where the sharp change in direction ends further to the middle strait, is one of the important valleys opening to the lower strait (Fig. 46). The Valley is nourished by Şarlayan Brook, Karakuş Brook and Kurt Brook that flow from southwest-facing slopes to the base. Moderately intensive unglazed and glazed wares and terracotta roof covering material representing the Byzantine Period are observed particularly in Kurtdere and on its slopes (Fig. 46.46-47-48). Material for covering or roofing was produced with two different groups of material, namely, coarse-pasted densely plant tempered and densely chamotte and stone tempered material. They also display two types.¹⁰

Morto Cove: Morto Cove is a sheltered natural port at the southwestern margin of Gallipoli Peninsula in Çanakkale Strait (Fig. 47). Morto Cove is located between Eskihişarlık (Abide at the present) in the southeast and Kaleburnu in its southwest. The alluvia carried by the brooks in the northwest and southwest of Morto Port formed a small plain behind the coast. The preliminary surveys of the areas, which may have been used during the Byzantine Period in Morto Cove at and above the altitudes of 50 m. and on Kerevizdere (Fig. 47.59-60) and Çomakdere Valleys, were completed. The archaeological surface surveys in these regions will be performed in the following seasons.

Karaağaçtepe (Fig.47.54): Karaağaçtepe Mound is located on the right side of Kirtre Brook in approximately 1.5 kilometers northwest of Morto Cove¹¹. We performed preliminary surveys in the region in 1998. During these studies, we documented moderately intensive base and rim shreds of Zeuxippus wares, which had been unearthed as a result of illegal excavations on the southwestern slopes of the mound (Fig. 48). On the other hand, we were unable to detect any material belonging to the late period in the mound during our surface surveys in 2005. During the excavations by French scholars in this area in 1921 (Demangel, 1926, 65-70), architectural ruins of Byzantine period, a terracotta oil lamp of the late Roman period as well as coins and pithoi of the Era of Justin II were unearthed in the southwest of the mound (Demangel 1926, 67). When the information found by us and the archaeological data obtained from the French excavations are evaluated, it becomes evident that Karaağaçtepe used to be permanently settled from the early Byzantine period to the late Byzantine period.

Eskihişarlık (Fig. 47.61-62-63): Eskihişarlık Cape at the southeastern margin of Morto Cove is approximately 50 m higher than the cove. It is difficult to find out whether there is any archaeological trace

10 Soganlidere Valley is another long and narrow valley after Havuzlar. Other valleys are the small valleys formed by Tenger Brook, Domuz Brook and Kereviz Brook. These valleys have been included in the working program for the following years.

11 The excavations in this area were carried out by Schlieman in 1882 and by the French in 1921/23. For further information, see. Özdoğan 1986, 54.

left by researchers or a local name of this area. This is due to the present environmental designs. Nevertheless, the sections we observed on the slopes descending sharply to Çanakkale Strait demonstrated the presence of an archaeological filling material which was approximately 2.5 m lower than the surface and approximately 2 m thick. It is comprehended that this fillet contains halfpreserved fragments of red-furnished Corinthian type of tile, painted pottery fragments representing the early Christian period and glazed ceramics of the 12th and 13th centuries. Approximately 50 m northwest of this fillet, we documented a piece of wall, which was about 1.5 m in length, and some of which was visible. The wall character indicates that it had been a defense wall. Examinations were made on the surface and in the sections on the south-facing slopes of the Çanakkale Martyrs' Memorial in order to understand whether this wall had continued westwards. As a result of these studies, we found a second piece of wall 150 m west of the piece of wall we had found and it is understood that these traces surround the hill, where the Çanakkale Martyrs' Memorial is located. The material and technical characteristics of the walls indicate that they had belonged to the Byzantine period. The data we found archeologically document the presence of a castle in this region, as also indicated by the place name 'Eskihisarlık'. The information quoted by Prokopius and our findings are parallel. According to written and archaeological data, Eskihisarlık is localized as Elaius (Charmonard et. al. 1915, 148; Picard and Reinach 1912, 314; Isaac 1986, 192-193; Loukopoulou 2004, 906). In addition, Procopius states that Justinian constructed a castle at the summit of a rocky abyss ascending at the sea in Elaius and says that the place concerned was already a natural defense structure (Procopius 1971, 303). These data display similarities with the topography of Eskihisarlık. Depending on this, it may be stated that, the pieces of wall we detected had belonged to the Castle of Elaius¹².

Sparsely-intensive glazed and unglazed pottery shreds were detected in almost 1.5 kilometers northeast of the Cape during our preliminary surveys in 1998. Concave roof covering of the 10th to 13th centuries were documented on the northwestern slopes of Eskihisarlık. This material was detected at an altitude of approximately 35 m. Some structural remnants are observed on a panoramic picture taken to cover some of this hill in 1915 (Charmonard et. al. 1915, 148, fig. 2). The location of this site and the area, where we detected the roof covering material are situated nearly at the same place. Although some claim that the remnants in the picture used to be a monastery, J. Chamonard, F. Courby and E. Dhorme identify this structure as a chapel¹³.

Alçitepe (Krithea/Kirte) (Fig. 47.56): Alçitepe is a settlement in the close vicinity of Morto Cove. Alçitepe is located at an altitude of 100 m. and is 4.5 kilometers northeast of Morto Cove. It is a village settlement prevailing over Morto Cove and the Aegean Sea on the banks of the tributaries of Kitre Brook in the west of Kanlıdere. Taking this location into account, it becomes evident that this site used to have relations with Morto Cove during the Byzantine period. An impost capital (Fig. 49) and a pier piece were documented in the village in Alçitepe during our field surveys. During our studies we came to two coins brought from Alçitepe at Çanakkale Archaeology Museum. They belonged to the Eras of Leon VI (886-912) and Romanos I Lakkapenos (920-944) (Fig. 50).

The archaeological data of early, middle and late Byzantine periods, which we detected in and around Morto Cove, indicate that Morto Cove had been an important settlement during the Byzantine Period.

Our field surveys on interconnected valleys within the district borders of Eceabat-Madytos in Gallipoli Peninsula indicate that these areas used to be densely settled in the early Christian and Byzantine periods. This information is new for Byzantine studies and will constitute an important database for future studies on the region.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Ç. Türker

12 A study, with which the archeological traces we found are evaluated in detail, is being prepared for publication.

13 This structural remnant was also marked on the maps of Ottoman Period dated to 1915. These data indicate the existence of a religious institution on the northwestern slopes of the hill. For information about the excavations in this area and the unearthed works, see. Chamonard et.al., 1915, 149; Boardman 1980, 265; Loukopoulou, 2004, 906; Isaac 1986, 192, fn.196.

Özet

Madytos Çevresindeki Vadilerde Erken Hristiyan ve Bizans Dönemi Arkeolojisi

Gelibolu Yarımadası'ndaki erken Hristiyan ve Bizans dönemine ait arkeolojik verilerin tespit edilmesi amacıyla 2005 yılında planladığımız yüzey araştırmalarının bir bölümünü Eceabat (Madytos) ilçe sınırlarındaki çalışmalar oluşturmıştır. Gelibolu Yarımadası'nın batı ucunu oluşturan bu bölge I. Dünya Savaşı'nın yoğun geçtiği alanları içerir. Savaş sonrası yapılan anıt düzenlemeleri ve ağaçlandırma faaliyetleri ile bölgede önemli bir tahribat oluşmuştur. Bu nedenle Bizans Dönemine ait arkeolojik verilerin tespit edilmesi güçlük gösterir. Ortaya çıkan bu sorunun aşılabilmesi için ilk aşamada Eceabat merkez ilçede, Belediye'nin alt yapı çalışmalarının programını takip ettik ve önemli verilere ulaştık. İkinci aşamada Eceabat-Madytos'un 5 ve 10 km. çapındaki yakın çevresini değerlendirdik. Bu çalışmalar sonucunda Eceabat'ın Bizans dönemindeki yerleşim alanının yaklaşık sınırlarını ve kısa mesafede daha çok ilişkide bulunduğu yerleri anlaşılır hale getirdik. Üçüncü aşamada ise Yarımada'da ulaşımın yönünü belirleyen vadilerde çalışmayı hedefledik. Bu çalışmanın konusunu da vadilerde tespit ettiğimiz arkeolojik verilerin ilk değerlendirmeleri oluşturacaktır.

Eceabat ilçe sınırları içerisinde yer alan geniş tabanlı önemli bir vadi Yalova vadisidir. Vadinin Çanakkale Boğazı kıyısında ise Akbaş Limanı yer alır. Yalova Vadisi, yan derelerin oluşturduğu küçük vadiler ile birleşerek vadi ağları meydana getirir. Bu vadi ağları ile Saroz'daki Ece Limanı ve Kuzey Ege'deki Suvla doğal limalarına kolayca ulaşılmasını sağlar. Yalova Vadisi'nin güneybatı kenarında, kuzeydoğuya bakan yaklaşık 100 m. yüksekliğindeki bir plato üzerinde her iki yanı korunaklı arazinin uç noktasına yerleştirilmiş bir Bizans kalesi bulunur. Antik Sestos şehri Akbaş'taki kalenin bulunduğu yere lokalize edilir. İkinci bir görüş ise şehri, Akbaş Vadisi'ne kuzeydoğu yönünden ulaşan akarsuyun (Sıvıtlı Dere) kenarında, küçük ve korunaklı vadinin içerisinde gelişmiş Yalova Köyü'ne lokalize eder. 1998 yılından 2000 yılına kadar bölgede yaptığımız çalışmalarda elde ettiğimiz ön bilgiler, vadinin ağzının erken Bizans döneminden geç Bizans dönemine kadar yoğun iskan edildiğini göstermiştir. 2005 yılında Yalova Köyü'ndeki çalışmalarımızda da Bizans dönemine ait çok sayıda mimari ve liturjik kullanıma ait taş eser tespit ettik. Yalova Vadisi'nin güneybatıya bakan yamaçlarında Çağlayık ve Ağılaltı mevkilerinde, 2006 yılında yaptığımız yüzey araştırmalarında Bizans Dönemini temsil eden çatı örtü malzemeleri, sırlı ve sırsız seramikler belgeledik. Bu vadinin üst kotlarında 2008 yılı çalışmalarımızda Kavaklıçeşme ve Gavurköy mevkilerinin orta ve geç Bizans dönemlerinde yoğun iskan edildiğini gösteren yeni verilere ulaştık.

Gelibolu Yarımadası'ndaki Eceabat-Madytos ilçe sınırlarında, birbirleri ile bağlantılı vadilerde gerçekleştirdiğimiz yüzey araştırmaları, bu yerlerin erken Hristiyan ve Bizans dönemlerinde yoğun iskan edildiğini göstermektedir. Bu bilgiler Bizans araştırmaları için yenidir ve bölge üzerine gelecekte yapılacak çalışmalara önemli bir veri tabanı oluşturacaktır.

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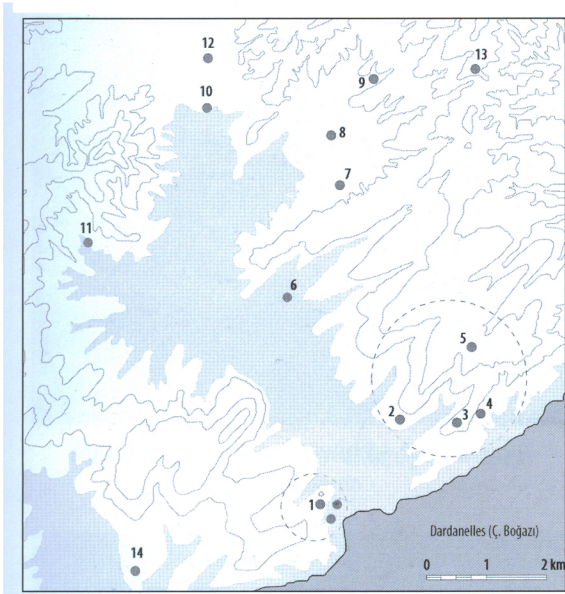


Fig.1. Yalova valley

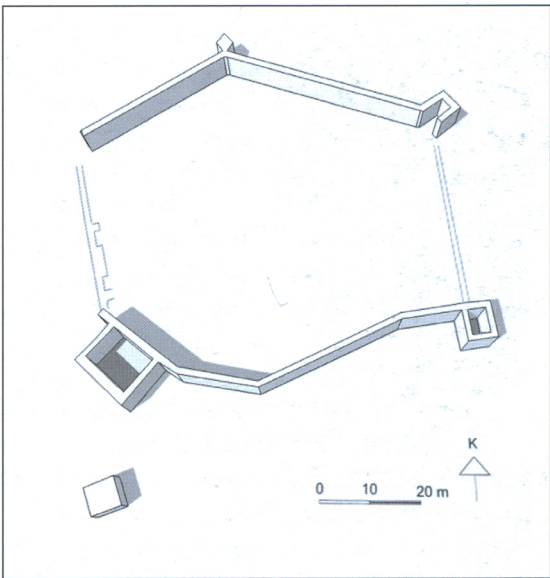


Fig.2. Akbaş (Sestos) Castle
(drawing by Türker Türker)

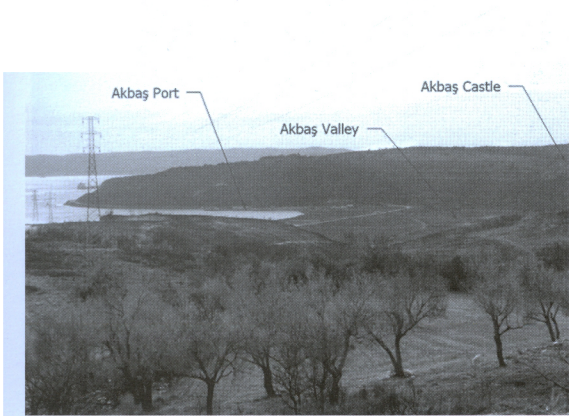


Fig.3. Akbaş Port from Kavaklıçeşme locality



Fig.4. A cistern on the plain in front of the castle
which was unearthed during illegal excavations



Fig.5. Akbaş castle, the tower at the southwest



Fig.6. Pottery from the southeastern slopes
of the castle



Fig.7. The architectural sculpture in Yalova Village today



Fig.8. The architectural sculpture at the cemetery wall



Fig.9. The architectural sculpture in the Yalova Mosque cemetery



Fig.10. Pithoi from Gavurköy locality

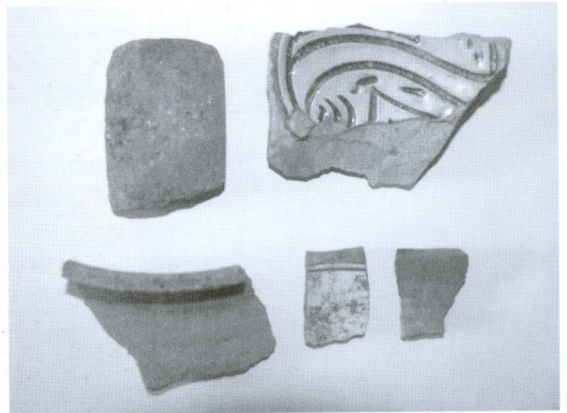


Fig.11. Pottery from Gavurköy locality

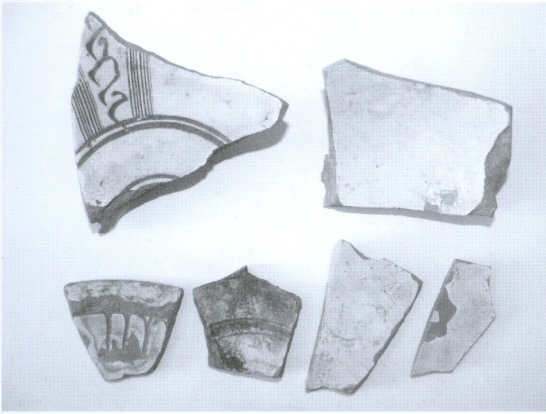


Fig.12. Pottery from Kavaklıçeşme locality



Fig.13. Pottery from Harmanyeri locality



Fig.14. A pier from Bahşıköy cemetery



Fig.15. Double columns from Kumköy cemetery

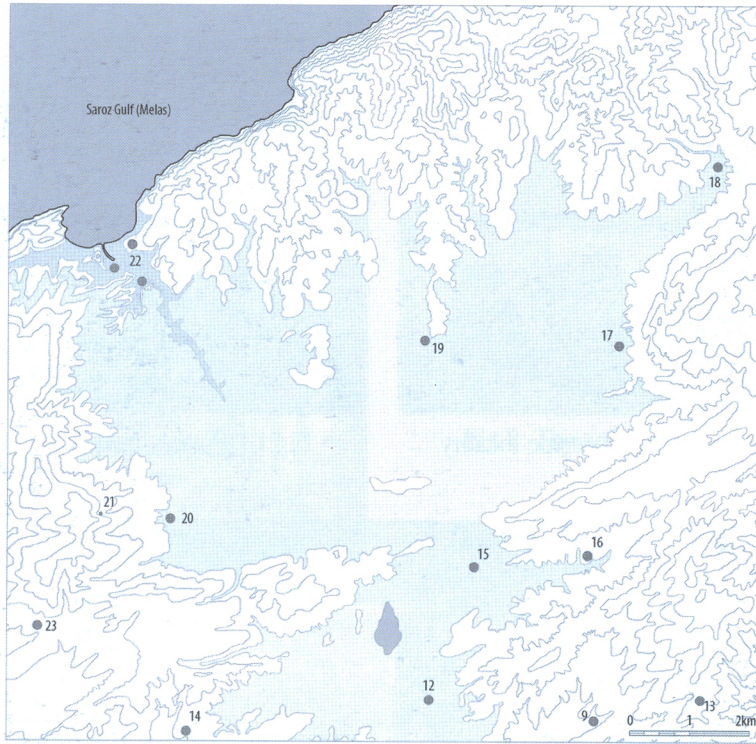


Fig.16. Plains between Yalova and Ece Port (Kocadere) Valleys



Fig.18. Double column from Yolağzı



Fig.17. Impost block from Uzunhızırılı



Fig.19. Column capital from Karainbeyli



Fig.20. Templon pier from Karainbeyli



Fig.21. Pottery from Kiliselik locality

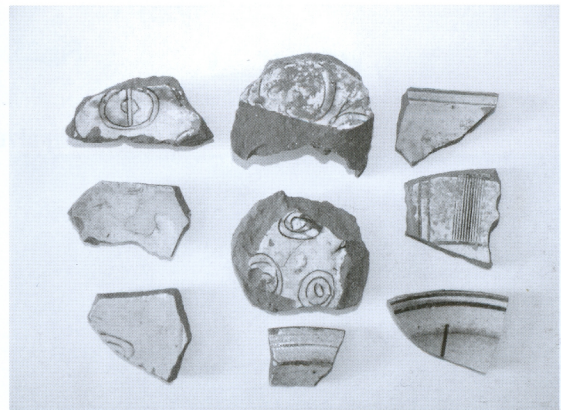


Fig.23. Pottery from Hisarlık locality



Fig.22. Wall in the northwestern corner of the Hisarlık Hill

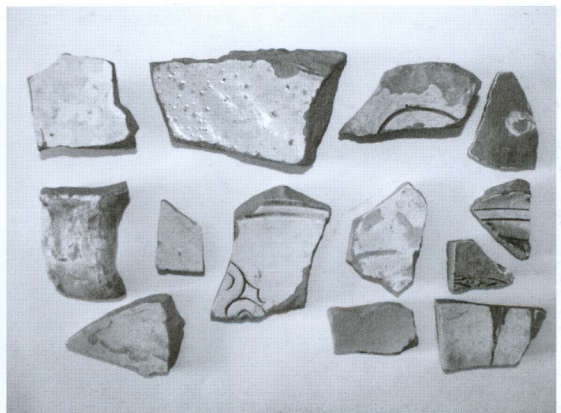


Fig.24. Pottery from Musaltepe locality

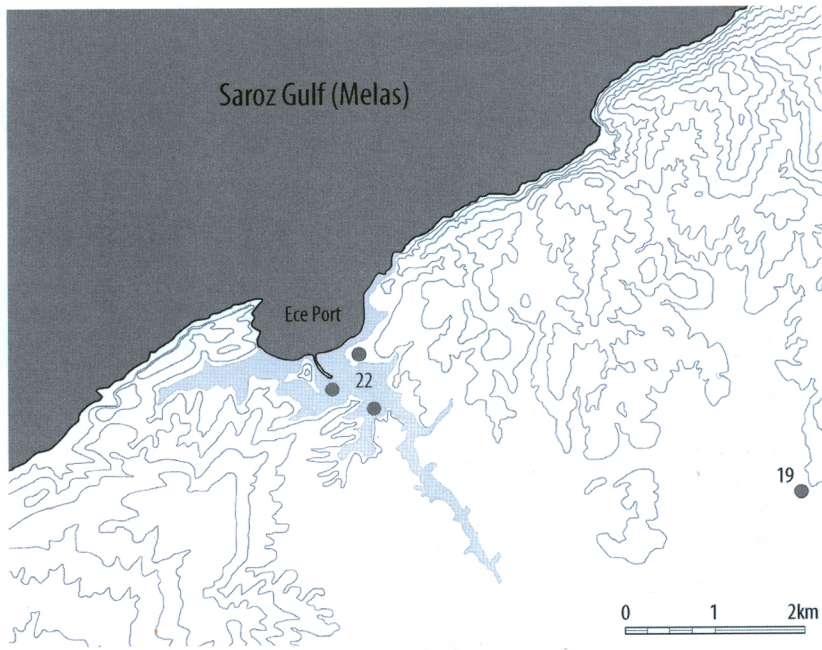


Fig.25. Ece Port

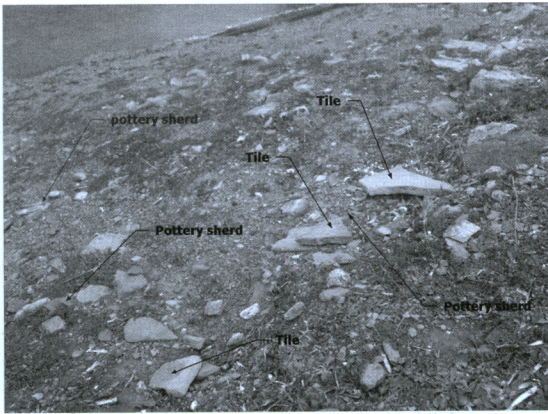


Fig.26. Pottery from Ece Port

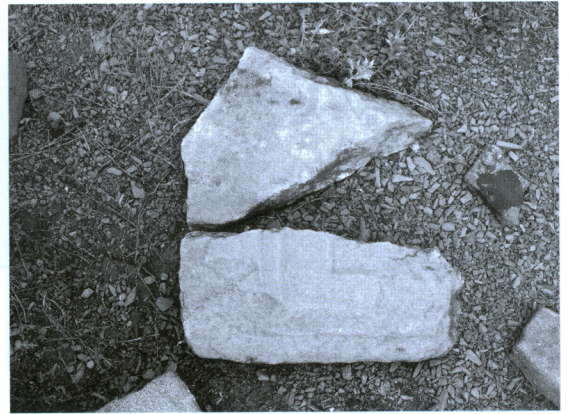


Fig.27. A screen piece from Ece Port

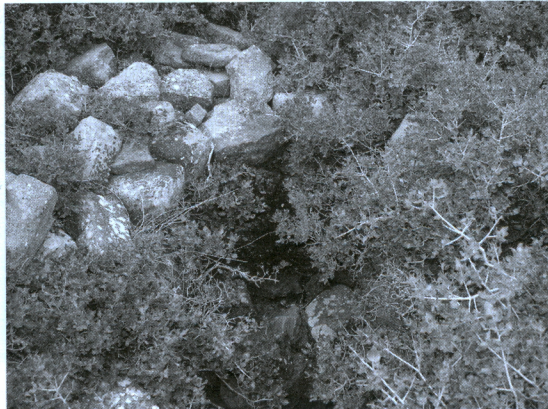


Fig.28. Wall traces from Ece Port



Fig.29. Suvla plain



Fig.30. Stamped amphora handle sherd from Büyük Kemikli



Fig.31. Pottery from Küçük Kemikli



Fig.32. A screen used as ayna taşı on a fountain in the Küçük Anafartalar Villlage

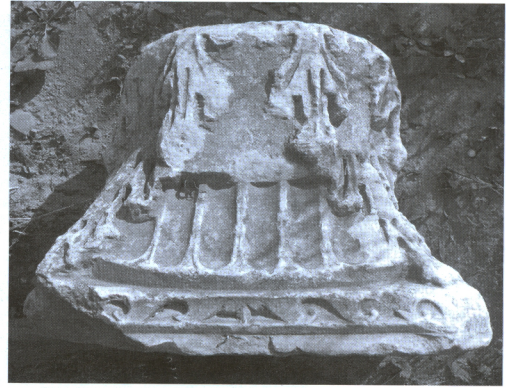


Fig.33. Column capital from Büyük Anafartalar cemetery



Fig.34 Column capital from Büyük Anafartalar cemetery

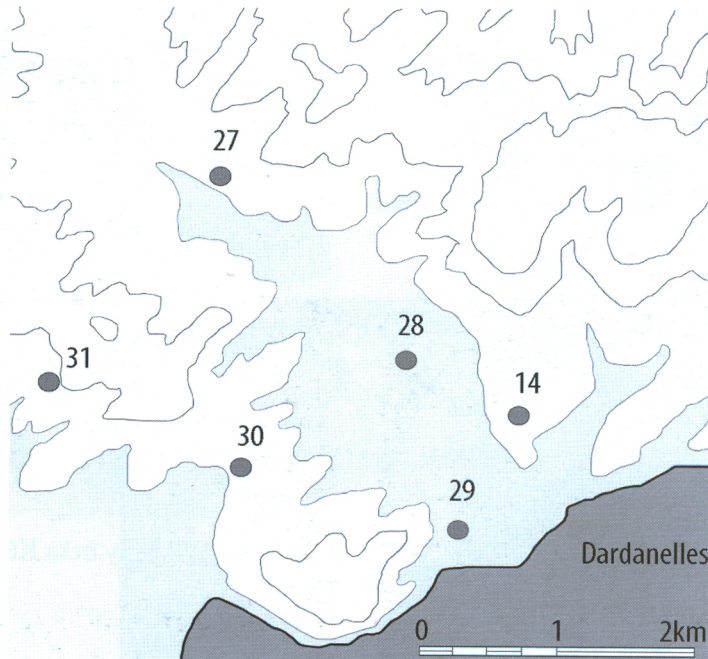


Fig.35. Bigalı Valley



Fig.36. Column base from Bigalı Village



Fig.37. A screen from Bigalı Village in Çanakkale Archaeology Museum

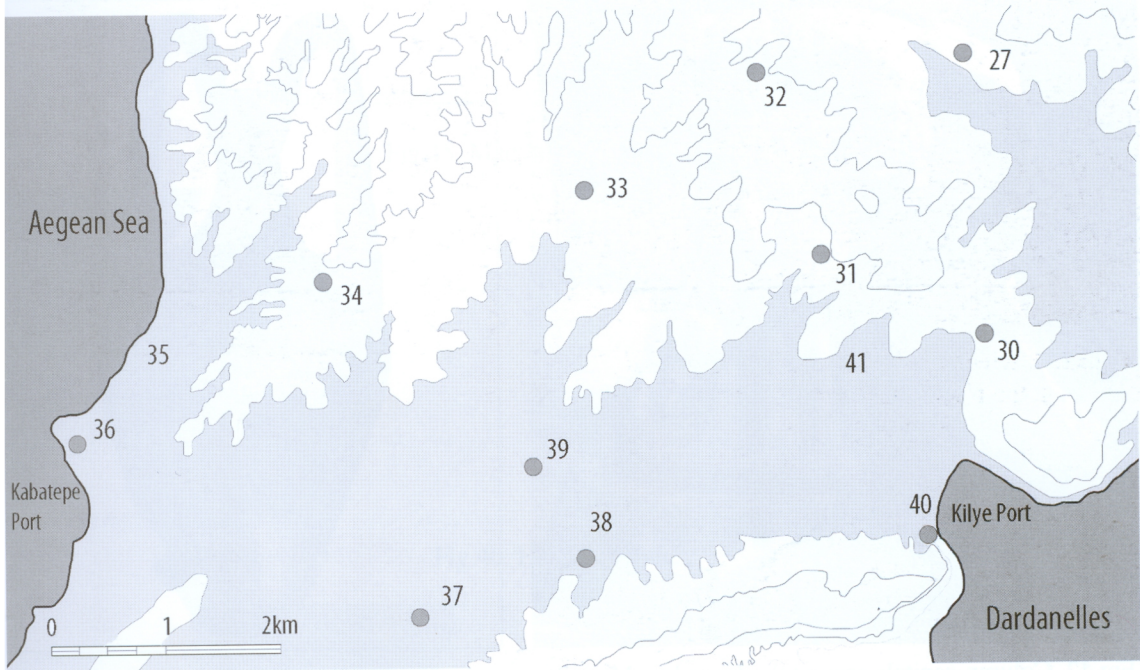


Fig.38. Kilye Valley



Fig.39. A tower ruin in the southwest of Kilye Cove



Fig.40. A screen in the Kocadere Mosque



Fig.41. Column shafts and a double column in the Kocadere Elementary School garden



Fig.42. Column capitals around the Kocadere Mosque

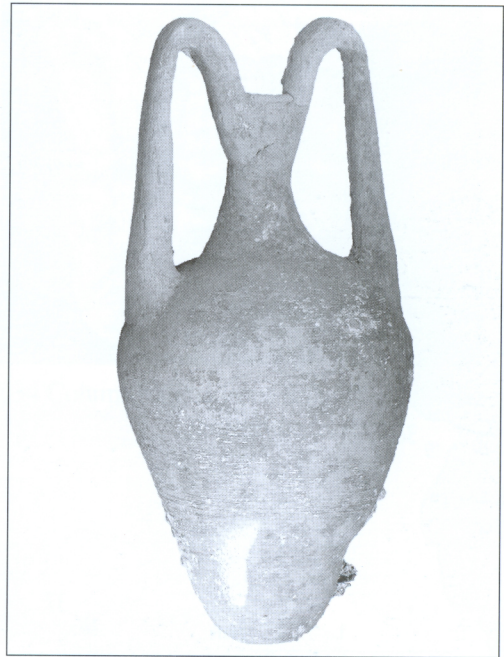


Fig.43. Amphorae from Kabatepe



Fig.44. Pottery from Ayazma locality

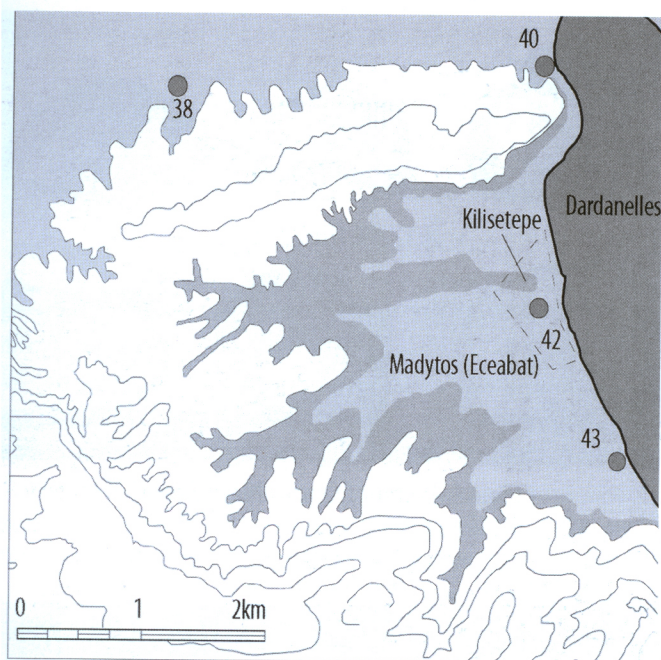


Fig.45. Madytos-Eceabat Valley

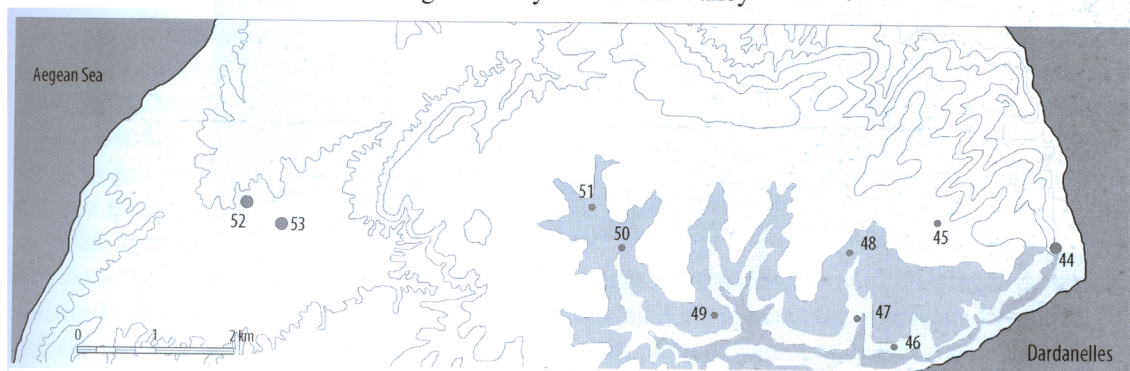


Fig.46. Havuzlar Valley

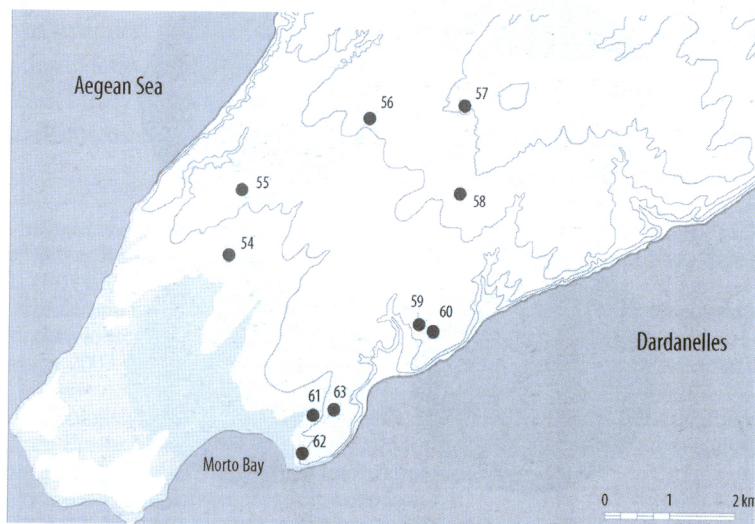


Fig.47. Morto Cove

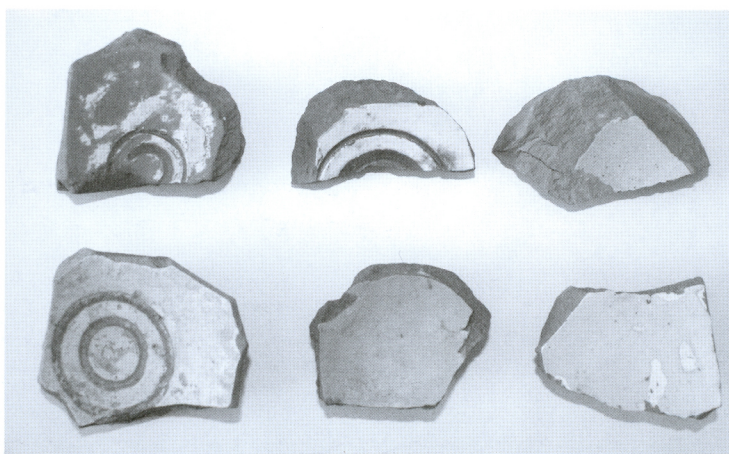


Fig.48. Pottery from Karaağaçtepe



Fig.49. Impost capital in the Alçıtepe Village



Fig.50. Coins from Alçıtepe at Çanakkale Archaeology Museum